would follow. Were our planet, for instance, as large as Jupiter, or Saturn, or Neptune, motion would be oppressive in the extreme to every living being. The hare would crawl like the sloth; the eagle's flight would be less extended than that of our domestic animals; and man, as if moving under a heavy burden, would become exhausted, and fall down to the ground upon the least exertion. Nor is it to be forgotten that in such a case the air would become so dense that no animal could breathe it, and press so heavily that it is doubtful if any animal could sustain the weight. On the other hand, were the earth as small as Mercury or the Moon, the animal would be exposed to opposite inconveniences: all our motions would be unstable and uncertain, like that of a person in a state of intoxication f every blow directed against us would prostrate us to the ground, while the air would become so thin as to be incapable of supporting animal life. In the one state of things, man would be like a captive loaded with chains, and in the other, like a person dizzy and staggering through feverislmess and loss of blood.

THIRDLY, THERE is THE ADJUSTMENT OF BODIES WITH THEIR PROPERTIES IN RESPECT OF SPACE.

These skilful collocations abound on the earth: as in the position of the organs in the animal and vegetable frames, so exactly adapted to their functions; and in the distribution of plants and animals over the surface of the globe, so nicely accordant with the situation and climate. Nature exhibits no such anomalies as an eye placed in the foot, or toes growing on the head, as a camel produced in the arctic and a rein-deer in the torrid regions. But the adaptations of this description may be seen most distinctly in the heavenly bodies.

We can conceive the properties of matter to be as they are, and yet the result only a jumble of incongruities, because the

bodies happened to be too near each other, or at too great a distance. If the moon, for instance, had been much nearer the earth than it is, the tides of the ocean would have run so high that navigation must have been all but impossible. The planetary system would never have moved, or would long ago have gone to wreck, if, along with the present laws, there had not also been a skilfu^ collocation of the various bodies. The profound mind of Newton thought it inexplicable by natural causes, and to be ascribed to the counsel and contrivance of a voluntary